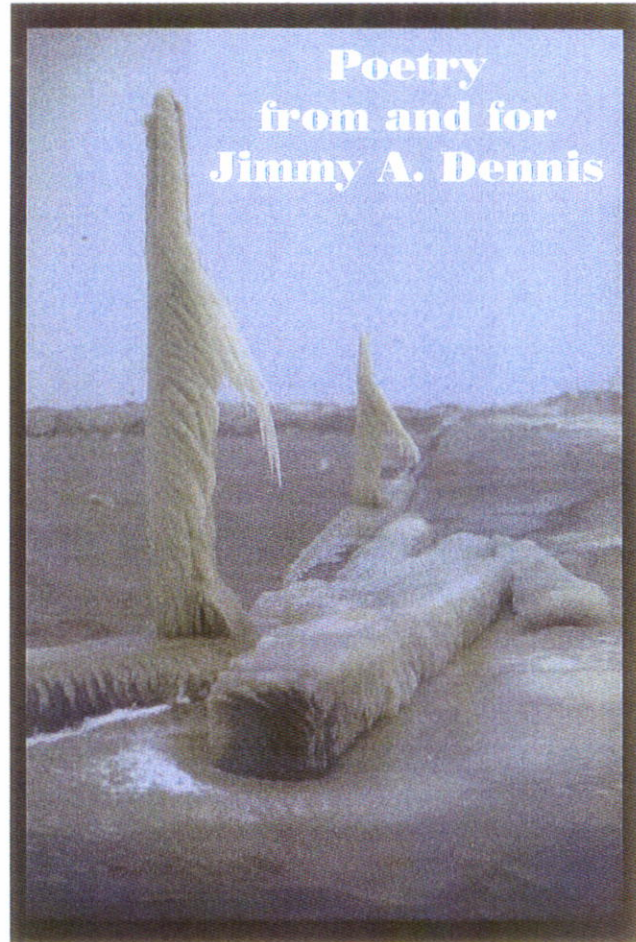


Praying 4 The Truth

**Poetry
from and for
Jimmy A. Dennis**





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About Jimmy



Jimmy A. Dennis was born on August 28, 1970, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. At the age of 21 he was arrested for a murder he didn't commit. In 1992 - at the age of 22 - the family father was wrongly sentenced to death for this murder.

About the Case:

A 17-year-old girl was shot to death on a sunny afternoon in October 1991 at a public transportation stop in Philadelphia. The eyewitnesses described the shooter - and their descriptions contained no similarities to Jimmy. The police were under pressure to solve the murder case and they went the easy way - frame an innocent person instead of investigating the leads they had. Witnesses were manipulated. The ones who changed their testimony were heard at trial and told their lies to the jury, while the ones who stood by what they said from the beginning were never heard by jury or judge. The only witness that tried to link Jimmy to the murder weapon had a deal with the state... and recanted later. No weapon was ever found, simply nothing was found to link Jimmy to the crime ...and Jimmy had a watertight alibi corroborated by more than one person.

Further information about Jimmy and his case:

www.jimmydennis.de



LOCKED UP

*A part of me
is locked up-tied up
wrapped up...
in you.
I let it go
and came undone.
You're still locked up.
And I'm still locked up...tied up,
wrapped up
in you.
And even more
Alone.*

Janene Willock



FOR JIMMY

*I've seen hope in your eyes
I've seen hope pass by. . .
like unmarked cars; vision from your dreams
I've seen love
locked up in people
and people locked up
in love.
I've heard love
in song and. . .
in your words
I've watched people come and go
my father, friends. . .
I've felt love
as warm as the sun. . .
Vanish
I've felt love as cold as ice
Melt at my feet.*

by Janene



About The Book

Since the day of his conviction, Jimmy has been fighting to bring the truth to light, to clear his name and regain his freedom.

The "Justice for Jimmy" campaign has found supporters from around the world over the years. Some of these supporters have become close friends with Jimmy.

This book contains poems written by Jimmy's sister, Hope, and poems written by some of Jimmy's friends. These poems are either written for Jimmy or inspired by him.

For the first time Jimmy is releasing some of his own poems in this book.

The earnings from this book will be used to support Jimmy's children and for his legal defense.

You are welcome to join the "Justice for Jimmy" campaign and because legal expenses have to be covered, any donation is welcome:

*Donation Account
James A. Dennis Legal Expense Trust
SunTrust Bank
Dept. 28
Washington, D.C. 20042-0028*



I WANTED...

*I wanted to construct some words to
shine a light in your dark home.*

*I wanted to just reach my arms
through the bars and embrace the body
that lacks the warmth of touch.*

*Since I can't be the key to
unlock the chains,*

*Since I can't be the jury that
Knows to see the truth,*

So instead I'll be your friend.

*I wanted to be the wind
beneath your wings to remind you how
it feels to fly,*

*I wanted to be that voice that
Keeps you company in your many
hours alone.*

*Through pen and paper I can feel
the affection*

Through pen and paper I can feel you!

*Your picture on my wall now
stares back at me, not down
on me; but rather Keeps me*

*Knowing that you're out there,
doing your time;*

*With open arms I want to do
the time with you.*

by Melissa DiCicco



TELLIN' IT

*In this twist
I shall be frank with you
how things should be
I suffered under no delusions
of grandeur
to what things were
what you gave off
a fairytale
draped in bliss
unbreakable chains
as you wallow in shadows
of lust
how magnanimous of you
to say
it's okay for me to feel
this illness in my soul*

by Jimmy A. Dennis



NOT THE WAY IT SEEMS


*So it seems your life is over
And there's no hope in tomorrow
When you look into your future
All you see is pain and sorrow*

*It may seem as though
Your "so-called" friends
Have turned their backs on you
But those who matter most
Will remain when this all ends*

*Though your dreams
Seem to be falling apart
No one can destroy the talent and love
God put into your heart*

*So lift up your head
And stand still
Just remember nothing can happen
Unless it's God's will*

by Hope A. Dennis



*What keeps us all, from time to time, lending a hand. To a brother,
who may need, our help to stand? There comes a time when we all
reach
out to someone. Don't wait till then to think about what you
should've done Look at our world and tell me what it is you see?
Now, how can you stand by and let more injustice be?*

by Al-Nisa Page



WORD ASSOCIATION

*Stolen
From
Family
Daughters
Grow
Photographs
Tears
Bitter
Scars
Pain
Years
Innocent
Yearning
Freedom
Please*

by Jimmy A. Dennis



MAIL CALL

*Cool swift breeze goes pass cell door
we all know, we anticipate
entire block gets quiet
then
sadness creeps in
there was someone
hoping to hear from
looking forward to hearing from
wanting to hear from
parent
wife & children
family
lost love
sweetheart
friend
that special someone that makes them
smile
if not today prayerfully. . .*

by Jimmy A. Dennis



I REMEMBER (For H. and K.)

*I Remember
Oh how I remember
how sweet it felt
when I heard the blessed news
the greatest a man could receive
that Princess was on the way. . .
as she came, I was taken away
STOLEN
from my love, you and her
so much pain – so many tears
so was it then as it is now.
No yesterday, no today
only the single moments when. . .
when we was. . .*


by Jimmy A. Dennis



PRAYERFUL THOUGHTS

*She sleeps at night alone
she wishes he was home
million prayers to God
wonders if he hears her
children's cries
days trace memories
in her hand
clings to them as tightly
as she can
fearful
won't be able to remember
does God truly understand*

by Jimmy A. Dennis



*Our Lord will bless you friend,
give peace to a brother,
Love from heaven is always fair,
and the star will win.*

*Friend, brother,
don't give up,
we will fight with you!*

by Reiner S. Goldau



LIKE A STAR !

Like a star
 you shine in our life,
 even we don't see,
 even we don't speak...
 but we know,
 we feel a light from your heart.

In the middle of the night
 there is a star so clear
 who never was a star before
 you gave it light.

Friends you maybe lost
 on your way so hard,
 loneliness and pain
 but life
 you give to us.

So strong,
 so strong in faith,
 sometimes down,
 sometimes tears,

we don't see,
 but we feel...

WRECKAGE REBORN (For: Melissa; "Through the Fire")

Miraculously I survived
 gusty winds
 deserted land
 the illest of life
 I tottered
 on dagger's edge
 an Angel at heart playin', with hell fire
 shipwrecked. .
 then she called
 my soul to save --
 I be her

pure. Now. .
 just as I be when first conceived
 beautiful. . renewed. .
 appreciation for self
 love

my heart
 mind
 soul
 open to every conceivable drip
 of life
 she that is I
 loves me.

by Jimmy A. Dennis

STRONG BLACK MAN

*A few years ago,
You stood...
Preparing to experience life
From an adult perspective...
Then circumstances intervened
And turned your world upside down
Leaving you stripped
Of your dignity and self worth
From the very beginning
The road has been unbearable
A lesser man would have crumbled
giving into defeat.
But somewhere in the depths of your soul
With that and God on your side
Gave you the courage to press forward
Every time things started to look up
There is the devil trying to make things impossible
Only a strong black man
Could tolerate all the pain and suffering you have
So lift up your head
Because God has the final word
And one day soon
The strong black man who has
Fought a good battle
Will have finally won the war 1 1 1*

by Hope A. Dennis

MISSIN' YOU (For: Tha' Queen)

*Oh' how I miss
the one and only buttahscotch
all her beautiful jazz
luscious curves
sassy as R & B
Oh' how I miss -- her
together we were the best...
our hip hop unbreakable
the flow of our joint heart beats!
never ever ending...
conversation tic toc non stop
Oh' how I miss -- her
she brought me pure joy; the gospel
the little things
spicy cajun shrimps... DLTz
the way that she crossed her legs
her shampoo
the Chanel she mist herself with
Oh' how I miss -- her
she could wash away my deepest blues
the tongue tangle
callin' my name
washin' my hair
Oh' how I miss -- her
The music to my soul.*

by Jimmy A. Dennis

DEAR GOD

Dear God, it's me again,
And I need you to listen.

I'm in a bind lord,
And have only you to confide in.

Dear God, I need a miracle,
One only you can deliver.
And I need your comfort lord,
To calm my lonely quiver.

Dear God, I've been wronged,
And I am fighting for my life.
But I know you can pull me through,
Oh lord, please make it right.

Dear God, I've called you,
Many times before.
And I know you're very busy,
But PLEASE don't let me go ignored.

Dear God, I am your servant,
And I will do as you say.
But I hope it's not your plan,
To have me perish in this way.

Dear God, I'll go for now,
For I'm sure you've much to do.
Just keep me in mind lord,
I'll be waiting here for you.

by Frances L. Palmese

All alone,
In a small dirty cell.
Wondering when they'll come,
And release me from this hell.

For seven years now,
I've sat here in denial.
Thinking that justice will prevail,
In just a little while.

A little while,
Has long passed by.
And here I sit,
Asking GOD why?!

How could this happen?
How could they not see?
There was no evidence
They wrongly convicted me!

My sentence is death,
And it will soon come.
The politicians smile,
As it seems like they've won.

How do you scream,
Through these walls of cinderblock?
How do you show them,
And make the madness stop?

Two little girls,
Go on without their father.
While the government commits murder,
And no one seems to bother.

*Why should you care,
About little ol' me.
Convicted of an awful crime,
That no one dares to see.*

*You should care about me,
Because I am like you.
A GOD fearing soul,
Whose life is now through.*

*Remember me,
And do not shed a tear.
Our GOD will judge me,
When he calls me near.
If guilty for this crime,
He will punish me.
But if innocent for this act,
He will set my soul free.*

*Murder is murder,
No matter the forum it is committed.
Whether on the streets,
Or here in this prison.*

*You will also face him and answer,
For the actions of your life.
So be prepared executioner,
For on judgment day you too will pay the price!!*

by Frances L. Palmrose

COUNTING THE DAYS

*Counting the days,
As I sit in this cell.
Praying for a miracle,
But only time will tell.*

*As I sit here; daydreaming,
Thinking of days gone past.
I can't believe what has happened,
And I wonder how long it can last.*

*How long should I be punished,
For a crime I didn't commit?
How much more torture can I withstand,
Before my soul decides to quit?*

*Counting the days,
Since I saw my children and my wife.
Thinking of the pain they will endure,
As the state takes my life.*

*I sit here in prayer,
Hoping that GOD hears my cry.
Knowing he can make a way,
And not let me die.*

*Counting the days,
This is how I spend my time.
I know my patience will pay off,
And everything will be fine.*

by Frances L. Palmrose